

MARINE LIFE PROTECTION ACT Central Coast Study Region (CCSR)

In September 2007, the first Marine Life Protection Act MPA network was created on the California central coast designated by the Department of Fish and Game. The CCSR was the first of five statewide study regions to be passed through the MLPA planning process:

CCSR Quick Stats:

Amount: 29 MPAs

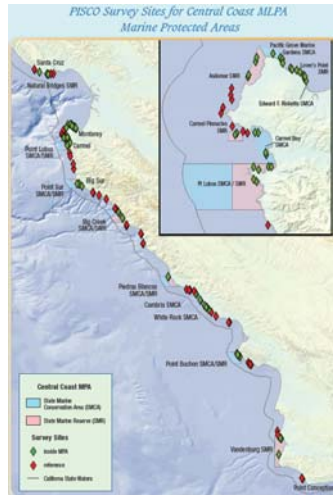
Area of MPA Coverage: 204 square miles or 18% of state waters in CCSR.

Range: Pigeon Point - Point Conception

Fun Fact: Of the 29 MPA’s, 17 contain kelp forests, 14 of which can be safely sampled using SCUBA.

On implementation of the central coast MPA network, baseline monitoring programs in subtidal ecosystems were initiated by PISCO with funding from the California Ocean Protection Council administered by California Sea Grant and UC Santa Cruz.

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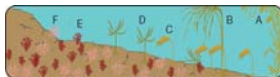
Broadcast Results from 07/08 Baseline Monitoring

To communicate the findings of the baseline monitoring studies, PISCO, in collaboration with NOAA’s Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS), the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation (MBSF), and the California Sea Grant program have created an informational booklet titled “Monitoring MPAs by SCUBA in waters off Central California”.

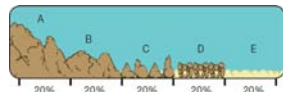
The booklet presents pictographic representations of data gathered as part of the subtidal baseline monitoring in MLPA state marine reserves in 2007 / 08.

Future efforts to lead development of sustainable, informative, and innovative monitoring of California’s MPA network will be conducted by the Marine Protected Area Monitoring Enterprise.

Examples of Pictographic Data Representations

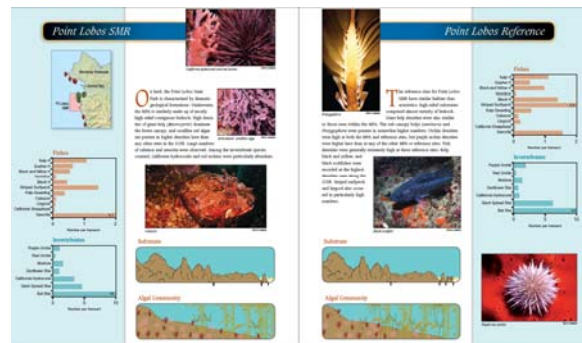


The number of algae in these images represents the relative abundance of the canopy forming giant kelp species (A) *Macrocystis pyrifera* and (B) *Nereocystis luetkeana*, the subcanopy kelps (C) *Laminaria setchellii* and (D) *Pterygophora californica*, as well as the percent cover of (E) fleshy red algae and (F) articulated coralline algae, which often dominate the algal understory.



Substrate type is classified as one of the following categories: (A) high-relief contiguous reef (>1 m vertical), (B) low-relief contiguous reef (<1 m vertical), (C) boulders (10 cm - 1 m diameter), (D) cobble (<10 cm diameter), or (E) sand. The width of the category indicates its relative percentage of cover in the survey area.

Sample Study and Reference Site Comparison



Alternate booklets focusing on the CCSR

This booklet is presented as a compliment to independently led booklets that have been created for the same purpose, these are listed below.

Title	Publication Date	Contact for Further Information
California’s Central Coast Marine Protected Areas, Baseline Data Collection Summary Report	2008	Marine Life Protection Act Initiative http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/
Monitoring MPAs in Deep Water Off Central California, 2007 IMPACT Submersible Baseline Survey	2008	Rick Starr (starr@mml.calstate.edu) or Mary Yoklavich (mary.yoklavich@noaa.gov)

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